



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
P.O. BOX 725
FITZWILLIAM, NH 03447
(603) 585-7723 Fax: (603) 585-7744
Email: fitzwilliamnh@fitzwilliam-nh.gov

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11, 2019
7:00 P.M.

Selectmen Present: Nancy Carney, Daniel Baker, Charles Kenison

Ms. Carney called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

PRIMARY:

***** APPROVE MINUTES**
- February 5, 2019

Mr. Kenison made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

***** APPROVE MANIFESTS**

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the manifests. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

***** REVIEW SIGNATURE FOLDER – The Selectmen reviewed and signed.**

7:15 MEET WITH CHIEF DISALVO

At 7:17 p.m. Ms. Carney made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c). Mr. Baker seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

At 7:30 p.m. Mr. Kenison made a motion to leave non-public session. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

8:00 MEET WITH NORWAY HILL
- Funding Brochure

Dr. Mark Funk, Selectman from Roxbury met with the Selectmen to discuss the flyer. Ms. Carney shared that David Carney from Norway Hill would also be attending. Dr. Funk shared that he had written a letter that was in the Sunday paper. Dr. Funk thought that Mr. Carney had done a great job with the flyer and discussed what could be included this year and noted the information shouldn't be too complex. Discussion was held on municipal budgets, flat funding, and the reasons for increases in costs. Dr. Funk would like to have the information similar to last year and that we recommend a NO vote as we want the School Board to take up this issue and come up with a formula that would be fairer to all towns. Mr. Baker shared that the Selectmen were reviewing a draft of a letter to the School Board and mentioned that towns' are limited. Dr. Funk agreed that the RSAs needed to be changed to give more options. Dr. Funk stated that they would also draft a letter. Discussion continued on the unintended consequences of these battles when people feel they aren't being taxed fairly. Dr. Funk shared the ideal option would be that the money would go directly to the State and then be distributed. It was noted that Swanzeey would benefit very little from the change.

Ms. Carney shared with David and Lauren Carney of Norway Hill that the Selectmen wanted to discuss the flyer and noted that the numbers had changed. Ms. Carney stated that the Selectmen don't want to tell people how to vote but want to show the differences. Dr. Funk shared with Mr. Carney that he did a great job with the chart. Mr. Carney asked how many children Fitzwilliam had in the district. It was noted there were 246. Ms. Carney discussed what towns would benefit from 50/50. Mr. Carney asked if there was a change in the formula. Ms. Carney shared that five years was last year and it was voted down last year. Mr. Carney asked about the chart. Ms. Favreau clarified the information. Mr. Baker and Ms. Carney gave Mr. Carney an update on what happened at the School Board level with regard to the formula. Ms. Carney discussed

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11, 2019**

the Funding Committee's work. Ms. Carney noted that only the School Board can change the formula. Mr. Carney would get this information out to the voters and discussion was held on the wording of stating vote NO. Mr. Carney stated he would do what the Selectmen wanted and mentioned that people that go to Town meeting would read the information but not those that just go to vote. Mr. Carney noted that money would be saved by not sending the flyer to Swanze. Dr. Funk thought it should go to Swanze. Dr. Funk was fighting for his town and his feeling was to say vote NO. Mr. Fund would like to compliment the Funding Committee for the enormous amount of hours that they put in but they couldn't agree on one formula. Mr. Baker shared that they came up with a tool that incorporated the information and handed it to the School Board but the School Board didn't do anything with it. Mr. Carney asked if this was a Swanze citizen initiative and not the School Board. Ms. Carney shared it was a Petition Warrant Article. Ms. Favreau verified that it was Article #9. Ms. Carney shared that everyone needed to work together. Mr. Carney would work on the verbiage of adding vote NO and asked about timing. He shared it would take three business days to work up and he would send to the Selectmen for review. Mr. Carney would find out the postage cost. Dr. Funk shared that he would work with Jim Rousmaniere. Mr. Carney asked to keep it at the same number of words.

The Selectmen thanked Mr. and Mrs. Carney and Dr. Funk for meeting with them.

**DISCUSS EVERSOURCE ABATEMENT
- Updated information**

Ms. Favreau shared that she had contacted Gary Roberge regarding settling with FairPoint and realized that we never received a settlement letter from Eversource. Discussion continued on whether to settle or not and the cost of having Mr. Roberge handle the case vs hiring an attorney.

Mr. Kenison made a motion to sign the letter authorizing Gary Roberge of Avitar Associates to represent the Town regarding the Eversource abatement case. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

**REVIEW RETAINER LETTER FROM ATTORNEY ARTHUR CUNNINGHAM
- Chinook Solar**

Ms. Carney reviewed Attorney Cunningham's retainer letter. Attorney Cunningham had given Suzanne Gray an estimated \$25,000 figure if he was to represent the Town through the SEC hearing. Mr. Baker asked what would be gained having Attorney Cunningham represent the Town. Mr. Kenison shared they were offering to hire professional experts. Mr. Baker asked if we don't sign the retainer would he represent the Town on an as needed basis. Mr. Kenison asked if they didn't already ask Planning Board for a list. Mr. Baker asked that Ms. Gray meet with them to discuss the list. After discussion, Mr. Kenison stated he wasn't in favor of spending \$25,000 if it's all spelled out. Ms. Carney agreed. The Selectmen agreed to defer a decision until they receive the list from Ms. Gray.

REVIEW APPLICATION FOR PROPERTY TAX CREDITS/EXEMPTIONS – VETERANS'

Ms. Carney reviewed the Application for Property Tax Credit/Exemptions of Francis Richards. Mr. Richards requested a Veterans' credit.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

**CONSTRUCTION PERMIT
- Map 10, Lot 48**

Map 10, Lot 48 – Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the Permit for Map 10, Lot 48. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

REVIEW NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Ms. Favreau shared that she didn't go into detail on the funding article for the newsletter as the detail would be in the flyer. The Selectmen reviewed and approved.

Mr. Kenison asked if anyone saw the article in the Sentinel from a Roxbury Selectman.

Ms. Favreau shared that she drafted a couple of letters – one for the School District and one for the towns within the district. Ms. Carney shared that Richmond may want to be included in the flyer. Mr. Baker asked which would be most influential. Mr. Baker shared what changes he would make to the letters. Ms. Favreau would edit the letters for the Selectmen to sign.

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11, 2019**

***** NOTICE OF SHORELAND PERMIT APPLICATION**

The Selectmen reviewed the Shore Lands Permit Application notification filed for an after the fact deck addition for Map 25, Lot 13.

***** REVIEW RESIGNATION LETTER OF PLANNING BOARD MEMBER** – The Selectmen reviewed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- **Follow-up on Rental of Town Property Request** – Ms. Favreau asked if Mr. Baker had any information. Mr. Baker shared that he had reached out to Mr. Davis. Ms. Favreau suggested that Mr. Davis handle the request.
- **E-mail from Rick Van de Poll – Scheduled House Bill Hearing** – The Selectmen reviewed.

Terry Silverman shared that he was going to testify at the prime wetlands hearing on Wednesday and asked if it was all right to handout the information from Chinook.

Ms. Favreau shared that the Annual Report was going to the printers on Thursday. Ms. Favreau mentioned not hearing from the Firewards and the Warrant Article was still listed. Discussion was held on what the Selectmen were speaking to with regard to the Warrant Article. They questioned going forward with the Warrant Article without knowing the vote of the Firewards. Ms. Favreau shared the timeline to submit to DRA. Mr. Baker asked if Ms. Carney could speak to it and what would she say. Ms. Carney stated that she was for it as was the Assistant Fire Chief. Ms. Carney shared that Warren Hall was for it as well. Discussion was held on it being more streamlined, timing of election results, can the Chief be a Fireward, does pay change it, part-time position, being a year for the transition, and wording of the State RSA. Mr. Kenison shared that he had talked with Bill Prigge and he did not support it. Mr. Kenison stated that he would support keeping it on the Warrant. Ms. Carney agreed. Question arose about invalidating the Town's Personnel Policies. Ms. Carney shared that the Town's Personnel Policies were adopted by the Firewards a few years ago. Mr. Baker asked how many towns have a Board of Firewards. Ms. Carney discussed how it was handled in Troy. Ms. Carney stated it was a good time to move forward.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

- **STEEPLE PROJECT** – Mr. Baker shared that Jay Southgate stated his start date was November. Mr. Baker stated that Dave Drasba came in today. He was asked to help with the full assessment of the Town Hall. Question remains – if we complete the assessment, could we pay \$5-\$6,000 and get our \$10,000 from LCHIP. Discussion was held on the assessment being a full structural assessment of the Town Hall and there was some confusion on the work involved. Ms. Favreau reviewed Mr. Southgate's timeline to begin working on the project and she was concerned that it was pushed back to November. Ms. Favreau shared that we committed to him doing the work a year ago. Mr. Baker would ask for clarification from Mr. Southgate on the November start date.

February Meeting Schedule: **9:00 a.m. – Tuesday, February 5, 2019**
 7:00 p.m. – Monday, February 11, 2019
 9:00 a.m. – Tuesday, February 19, 2019
 7:00 p.m. – Monday, February 25, 2019

Mr. Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Mr. Kenison seconded and the motion passed. 3-0

Submitted by:

Sheryl White
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

Nancy Carney, Chairman

Daniel Baker

Charles Kenison
Board of Selectmen